

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 170302
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 MC-02 ACDA-07 AID-05 IGA-02 EB-07
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H:RPUGH

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P 211638Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, MASS, SF, GW

SUBJECT: GERVASI TESTIMONY ON F-104GS IN SOUTH
AFRICA

REF: BONN 11871

1. SEAN GERVASI, A RESEARCH ASSISTANT AT THE FERNAND
BRAUDEL CENTER, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, IN
BINGHAMTON, N.Y., APPEARED BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE
ON AFRICA OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
ON JULY 14. HE PROVIDED THE SUBCOMMITTEE WITH A LONG
PREPARED STATEMENT, THE FULL TEXT OF WHICH IS BEING POUCHED
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PAGE 02 STATE 170302

TO EMBASSY, ATTENTION: BOB GERMAN. IN THE Q AND A
SESSION AT THE HEARING THE ONLY REFERENCE HE MADE TO THE
F104G WAS IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ON DELIVERY ROUTES.
BEGIN TEXT: I BELIEVE SO. THE QUESTION OF ROUTES IS
A VERY DIFFICULT QUESTION. I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PUT THIS
INFORMATION TOGETHER WITH A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF HELP FROM
SOUTH AFRICA, BUT IT DEALS ESSENTIALLY WITH WHAT IS IN

THE INVENTORY AND WITH CERTAIN SALES. I DO NOT KNOW ALL OF THE DETAILS, FOR INSTANCE, WITH REFERENCE TO THINGS LIKE THE TRANSFER OF THE F-104G STAR FIGHTER, THE TRANSFER OF THE 50 CAVALIER F51D AIRCRAFT. I DO NOT KNOW PRECISELY HOW THOSE WENT THERE. END TEXT.

2. IN HIS PREPARED TEXT, THERE ARE NUMEROUS REFERENCES TO F104GS BEING PRESENT IN SOUTH AFRICA, BUT IN ONLY ONE PLACE--A LISTING OF ALL FOREIGN-SUPPLIED WEAPONS--ARE THE 40 F104GS IDENTIFIED AS OF QUOTE U.S. ORIGIN, EX-LUFTWAFFE. END QUOTE.

3. GERVASI WAS ONE OF SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS TO APPEAR BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE, WHICH IS INVESTIGATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

4. COMMENT: AT NO TIME IN EITHER HIS ORAL OR PREPARED STATEMENTS DID GERVASI OFFER PROOF OF HIS ASSERTION CONCERNING THE F104GS. HE DID SAY AT ONE POINT THAT IT WAS, IN EFFECT, UP TO THE USG TO DISPROVE HIS ASSERTIONS. IT SHOULD ALSO BE POINTED OUT THAT THE F104GS WERE NOT THE CENTERPIECE OF HIS TESTIMONY. THEY CONSTITUTE ONLY ONE AMONG MANY ITEMS WHICH HE ALLEGED ARE IN THE ARSENAL OF THE RSA. IN HIS ORAL PRESENTATION, GERVASI FURTHER IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS AN ECONOMIST, WHO WAS QUOTE RECENTLY A CONSULTANT TO THE UN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 170302

COMMISSION FOR NAMIBIA WORKING CLOSELY WITH MR. MCBRIDE UNQUOTE. HE ATTRIBUTED HIS INFORMATION RE RSA ARMAMENTS TO INDUSTRY SOURCES AND TO CONTACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN QUOTE INFORMANTS UNQUOTE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: RBCASAGRANDE:LR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 5dd5ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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